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CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for making changes to an active schedule being processed by a host controller, the method comprising:

examining a transaction descriptor;

determining a current state for a transaction based on the transaction descriptor; and preventing the transaction from starting if the current state indicates the transaction has not already started.

- 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the transaction descriptor includes a control bit to retain information related to a change in the active schedule.
- 3. The method of claim 1, further including marking the transaction descriptor as inactive.
- 4. The method of claim 1, further including allowing the transaction to complete if the current state indicates the transaction has already started.
- 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the transaction is a split transaction.
- 6. The method of claim 1, wherein the transaction descriptor includes a queue head, which is updated once the transaction is completed.

- 7. An apparatus comprising:
 - a transaction descriptor; and
 - a host controller, the host controller including,
 - a first programmable component to determine a current state for a transaction based on the transaction descriptor and
 - a second programmable component to prevent the transaction from starting if the current state indicates the transaction has not already started.
- 8. The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the transaction descriptor includes a control bit to retain information related to a change in the active schedule.
- 9. The apparatus of claim 7, further including a third programmable component to mark the transaction descriptor as inactive.
- 10. The apparatus of claim 7, further including a fourth programmable component to allow the transaction to complete if the current state indicates the transaction has already started.
- 11. The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the transaction is a split transaction.
- 12. The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the transaction descriptor includes a queue head, which is updated once the transaction is completed.

13. An system comprising:

a transaction descriptor;

an agent; and

- a host controller coupled to the agent, the host controller including,
 - a first programmable component to determine a current state for a transaction based on the transaction descriptor and
 - a second programmable component to prevent the transaction from starting if the current state indicates the transaction has not already started.
- 14. The system of claim 13, wherein the transaction descriptor includes a control bit to retain information related to a change in the active schedule.
- 15. The system of claim 13, further including a third programmable component to mark the transaction descriptor as inactive.
- 16. The system of claim 13, further including a fourth programmable component to allow the transaction to complete if the current state indicates the transaction has already started.
- 17. The system of claim 13, wherein the transaction is a split transaction.
- 18. The system of claim 13, wherein the transaction descriptor includes a queue head, which is updated once the transaction is completed.